

# **CHANNEL ADDRESS BLOCKING**

## **ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION**

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A method and system including apparatus for detecting and blocking an invalid request to a target wherein fibre channels interconnect the data processing configuration. A request made from a hub such as a fabric switch to an internal fibre channel arbitrated loop is blocked by substituting IDLE characters for the frames of data included with the request. The substitution of IDLE signals can also occur within an internal fibre channel arbitrated loop system where access is blocked to a confidential data storage system. If the request is legitimate, the data frames are passed to the target and the requested data is transmitted back to the requester. If the request is refused as being an unauthorized request, the data frames are replaced with IDLE characters and no transfer of confidential data occurs.

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